

1986); Willford v. Armstrong World Indus., Inc., 715 F.2d 124, 126-27 (4th Cir. 1983). Only in “unusual circumstances” do courts extend the automatic stay to nondebtor codefendants. McCartney v. Integra Nat. Bank North, 106 F.3d 506, 510 (3d Cir. 1997); A.H. Robins Co. v. Piccinin, 788 F.2d 994, 999 (4th Cir. 1986).

In this case, there are three Defendants: Gainey; State National Insurance Co.; and George Missouri, Jr. Gainey is the only Defendant that has filed a petition for bankruptcy. As a result, the proceedings against him are automatically stayed; however, they are not automatically stayed against the two nonbankrupt Codefendants. As Gainey has not demonstrated “unusual circumstances” to justify extending the stay to the other Defendants, the Court declines to stay the entire case. The case will proceed against State National Insurance Co. and George Missouri, Jr.

SO ORDERED, this the 24th day of December, 2008

s/Hugh Lawson
HUGH LAWSON, Judge

dhc